

Appl. No. 10/064,212  
Amdt. dated December 17, 2004  
Reply to Office action of September 24, 2004

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**5    Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (Original): A method of reproducing a media file with a control apparatus, the media file comprising a plurality of frames, each frame having an optional error check field, and an audio data field for storing encoded audio sample, the control apparatus including a parameter, the method comprising:

10    if the error check field of the frame exists, using the error check field to verify integrity of the frame; if the integrity of the frame is correct, decoding the audio sample in the audio data field; if the integrity of the frame is unable to be confirmed to be correct and the parameter indicates that the error check field no longer needs to be used to verify the integrity of the frame, decoding the audio  
15    sample in the audio data field; if the integrity of frame is unable to be confirmed to be correct and the parameter indicates that the error check field is to be used to verify the integrity of the frame, storing the audio data field for later reference without decoding the audio sample stored in the audio data field.

20    Claim 2 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein a first predefined constant is used as a destructive factor in calculations determining whether or not to continue using the error check field to verify the integrity of the data within the frame.

25    Claim 3 (Original): The method of claim 2 wherein a second predefined constant is used as a constructive factor in calculations determining whether or not to continue using the error check field to verify the integrity of the data within the frame.

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Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 3 wherein the parameter is a totalizer for accumulating the constructive and destructive factors utilized during processing of the media file so that when the value held in the totalizer is less than a  
5 predetermined threshold, the method continues using the error check field to verify the integrity of the data within the frame and when the value held in the totalizer is greater than or equal to the predetermined threshold, the error check field is not to be used to verify the integrity of the data within the frame.

10 Claim 5 (Original): The method of claim 4 wherein the totalizer is a variable, a register, or a counter.

Claim 6 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the area of the frame capable of being verified as correct by the control apparatus excludes the error check field.

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Claim 7 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the media file is an MP3 file.

Claim 8 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the control apparatus is implemented by a circuit or an algorithm.

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Claim 9 (Currently Amended): An apparatus for decoding and outputting a media file, the media file comprising a plurality of frames, the apparatus comprising:  
a control apparatus capable of decoding and outputting audio data of the frame if integrity of the audio data of the frame is not verifiable by the control apparatus  
25 using an error check field of the frame, and capable of using the error check field of the frame for error checking if the integrity of the audio data of the frame is verifiable by the control apparatus using the error check field of the frame when decoding and outputting the audio data of the frame  
wherein a first predefined constant is used as a destructive factor in calculations

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determining whether or not to continue using the error check field to verify the integrity of the data within the frame.

- 5      Claim 10 (Original): The apparatus of claim 9 further comprising a parser for parsing a frame in the MP3 file, a decoder for decoding data within the frame, and a buffer for storing audio data of the frame.

Claim 11 (Original): The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the control apparatus is implemented by a circuit or an algorithm.

- 10     Claim 12 (New): The apparatus of claim 9 wherein a second predefined constant is used as a constructive factor in calculations determining whether or not to continue using the error check field to verify the integrity of the data within the frame.

- Claim 13 (New): A method of playing a media file with a control apparatus, the media file comprising a plurality of frames, each frame optionally comprising an error check field, the method comprising:  
15     playing media file using the error check field to verify integrity of each frame as long as a value of a parameter within a predetermined range  
while playing media file using the error check field to verify integrity of each frame, using a first predefined constant as a destructive factor in calculations  
20     determining the value of the parameter; and  
continuing to play the media file without verifying the integrity of each frame once the value of the parameter is not within the predetermined range.

- Claim 14 (New): The method of claim 13 further comprising using a second predefined  
25     constant as a constructive factor in calculations determining the value of the parameter while playing the media file using the error check field to verify integrity of each frame.

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5      **Claim 15 (New)** The method of claim 14 further comprising while playing the media file  
         using the error check field to verify integrity of each frame, if integrity of a current  
         frame cannot be verified, storing an audio data field of the current frame for later  
         reference without decoding an audio sample stored in the audio data field

**Claim 16 (New)** The method of claim 13 wherein the predetermined range extends from  
         zero to less than one.

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